

TRANSLATION

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2003P11079WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/051972	International filing date (day/month/year) 31.08.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 08.09.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04L12/64, H04L12/28			
Applicant SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT			

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>

<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/051972

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

 - international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:

pages 1-12 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

nos. 2-8, 10-13 as originally filed/furnished

nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19 07.07.2005 with letter of 05.07.2005

nos.* 1, 9 received by this Authority on _____

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

sheets 1/2, 2/2 as originally filed/furnished

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____

the claims, nos. _____

the drawings, sheets/figs _____

the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____

the claims, nos. _____

the drawings, sheets/figs _____

the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/051972Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1–13	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1–13	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1–13	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1.1 Prior art

The invention relates to a subscriber line circuit and a communications system as defined in the preambles of independent **claims 1 and 9**, respectively. **US 2003/091032** (document **D1**) describes a circuit for connecting subscriber terminals, comprising network-side communication means for connecting to a packet network and subscriber-side communication means for connecting to subscriber terminals, with bidirectional conversion of the transmitted information. However, on the network side there is uniform signalling (H.248), and so the usability of such a circuit is restricted because the subscriber line circuit can only be connected to one particular type of network element.

1.2 Problem addressed

The present invention therefore addresses the problem of how to improve the usability of a subscriber line circuit so that it can be connected to various types of network element.

1.3 Solution

The problem is solved by equipping the subscriber line circuit

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Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**
with a plurality of different protocol means for communicating with different types of network element.

1.4 Conclusions

The subject matter of independent **claims 1 and 9** is neither anticipated by nor obvious from the prior art, and therefore meets the PCT requirements in respect of novelty and inventive step (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)). **Claims 2 to 8 and 10 to 13** are dependent on claims 1 and 9 and are therefore also novel and inventive. The subject matter of **claims 1 to 13** is clearly also industrially applicable (PCT Article 33(4)).

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

2.1 Contrary to the requirements of PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the description does not cite document **D1** and also fails to give an account of the relevant prior art disclosed therein.

2.2 **Claims 1 and 9** are drafted in the two-part form, but the following features should not have been placed in the characterising parts of the claims because they are disclosed in document **D1** together with the features set out in the preambles (PCT Rule 6.3(b)):

- means for connecting to a packet network (*figure 10: 18*);
- means for bidirectional conversion of the information transmitted by the subscriber-side communication means from and to the subscriber terminals into the information transmitted by the network-side communication means from and to the communications system (*paragraphs [0133] and [0151]*).